

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 38-100 are presently active in this case. Claims 1-37 were cancelled by a preliminary Amendment. The present Amendment amends Claims 38, 40-41, 43, 62, 75, 78 and 88, and adds new Claims 97-100 without introducing any new matter.

The July 16, 2008 Office Action objected to Claim 38 for informalities. Claims 75-96 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. Claims 38-65 and 67-74 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Reed et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0141453, hereinafter “Reed”). Claim 66 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Reed in view of Belcher et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,436,450, hereinafter “Belcher”).

The October 30, 2008 Advisory Action entered the Amendment filed after final on October 15, 2008 in response to the July 16, 2008 Office Action, and indicated that some of the arguments were convincing so that Claims 38-39 and 42-74 were indicated as allowable, but upheld the rejections of Claims 40-41 and 75-96 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

In response, dependent Claims 40 and 75 are amended to recite “the reading means being deformable.” This feature finds non-limiting support in Applicants’ disclosure as originally filed, for example in the specification p. 24, ll. 1-5, and ll. 18-25, and in Figures 8A and 8B, reference numeral 228. In addition, dependent Claims 41 and 76 are amended to clarify that the first means is movable and the reading means is deformable. No new matter has been added by these amendments. Moreover, dependent Claims 43, 62, 78 and 88 are amended to better comply with U.S. claim drafting practice and/or to correct minor formal issues. Again, no new matter has been added.

In addition, new independent Claims 97 and 99 are presented. New independent Claims 97 and 99 recite features that are analogous to the features of independent Claims 38 and 75, respectively, but in device claim language. These features are supported in the disclosure as originally filed, for example in Figs. 7A, 7B, 8A, and 8B, and in the specification starting at p. 21, l. 9. No new matter has been added.

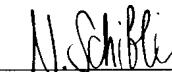
In addition, new dependent Claims 98 and 100 are added, depending upon independent Claims 97 and 99, respectively. These features find non-limiting support in Applicants' disclosure as originally filed, for example in the specification at p. 24, ll. 1-25. No new matter has been added.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal Allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 38-100 is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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